

The Human Touch

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And More!

Director's Message

I was so proud to attend the Executive Director's Annual Awards luncheon and recognize the outstanding service of some of our most valuable employees. The luncheon was a big success and I received great feedback from those attending. Thanks to Donna Russell, Jody Talbot, Tina Braby, Rich Rayl, and the Recognition Council for their excellent work on this event.

The best part of the luncheon was to meet so many dedicated employees. Because turnover is such a challenge at DHS I was especially glad to see so many employees who received their service awards for 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and even 45 years of service! This illustrates what a good career move it is to stay with our Department and build your future here. You will have a chance to work in as many different areas as you are interested in, all without having to sacrifice seniority and benefits. As one of the largest state agencies, we have plenty of diverse job pursuits. Thanks for sticking with us and making DHS what it is today.

Also this month we have been busy with our budget requests to the Governor's office. It is always a time for reflecting on how well we are doing our job. The legislators ask me: "Why is this a good use of taxpayer money?" and I am proud to tell



Lisa-Michele Church
Executive Director

them of your work. The legislature has recently been hearing from us on such issues as 1) the new background checks Division of Child and Family Services is doing with relatives before placing a child, 2) the successful supported employment pilot program in Division of Services for People with Disabilities, and 3) the challenges of the aging population boom poses for long-term care.

Later in September I am attending the Support Services Conference to celebrate the work of our administrative and technical personnel. This is a good chance for me to recognize their essential contribution. Thanks to all the financial, human resources, technology, contract, quality, review and secretarial staff that really make the DHS world go around!

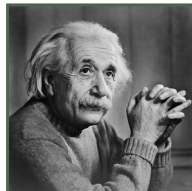
2007 Executive Director's Awards Luncheon

Donna L. Russell, Executive Director's Office

Lisa-Michele Church, Executive Director, hosted the Second Annual Awards Luncheon on Monday, September 17th. Long term employees and award nominees came from across the state to enjoy the event held at the Gardner Village Gathering Place, in Salt Lake City.

It was a time of recognition and relaxation for department employees with 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service. A high point of the event was the announcement of the Executive Director's Award recipients.

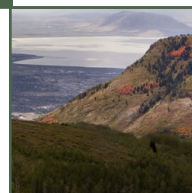
Thank you to all the co-workers who nominated people for these annual awards. The recipients were truly humbled by the recognition from their co-workers.



Only a life lived for others is
a life worthwhile.

- Albert Einstein

The wonderful music of the *blue haiku* group welcomed all into the luncheon, after which they performed several more original songs throughout the event. *Blue haiku* is a quartet of acoustic musicians who write and perform chamber folk music. Their contemporary songs blended voice, oboe, English horn, violin, guitar and upright bass. Group member Flavia Cervino-Wood is a post adoption caseworker in the Salt Lake Region DCFS.





Diane Maciel - 2007 Supervisor of the Year

*Administrative Director, Utah State Hospital Children's Unit
Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health*

Nomination Highlights:

Diane displays compassion for patients and families the State Hospital serves. She has a leadership style that allows staff autonomy to function in their jobs with the understanding that support is always available whenever needed.

The Children's Unit was recently remodeled, a recipe for chaos under the best of circumstances. Her staff writes, "Diane was always right there to help whenever there was a problem." She is a great advocate of team work and communication, and does a wonderful job giving positive feedback to the staff, including giving out staff incentive awards.

Diane communicates to staff when decisions and changes are made. She has a wonderful sense of humor, a great attribute as the work her team does each day is very difficult.

"Diane does an excellent job of allowing people to talk about their struggles at work, and is diligent with helping employees to find the motivation to continue to do a very difficult job," writes Mike Shelley, Unit Nursing Director.

And lastly, Frank Rees, Assistant Clinical Director,



sums up Diane's outstanding supervision saying, "The Utah State Hospital has many excellent and dedicated managers which makes my task of choosing one to support out of this great team quite a challenge. Fortunately, the manner in which Diane Maciel is facing the challenges on her unit while maintaining order during these changes for her patients and staff alike singles her out this year for consideration. I am truly grateful to her for the work she is doing, and am in awe of the humble, unassuming attitude she presents while doing such great service to one of the state's most vulnerable and needy populations."

Ella Loveland - 2007 Employee of the Year

*Clinical Consultant
Salt Lake City
Division of Child and Family Services*

Nomination Highlights:

Ella is well known for her high professional commitment, compassion and wisdom during the over 15 years of clinical service to children and their families.

One of the many, many examples of her compassion and creativity is the story of a young man that was reported to DCFS by his school. He had exceptionally poor hygiene, was a disruption in class and in danger of being removed from school. His family was quite upset, but not sure how to meet his needs.

Ella came up with an "out of the box" idea to help the



Ella was vacationing on the Oregon Coast

whole family. DCFS purchased a year round family pass to the local community recreation center, where the family used the pool's showers – thus taking care of the hygiene issues. Class disruption was less, because the young man fit in better and the family enjoyed time together as the recreation center.

What makes Ella special?

- She is a patient listener with the skills to validate, comfort, calm and teach
- She is fluent in American Sign Language
- She is a Master Practitioner of Neuro Linguistic Programming
- She has supervised graduate students in Social Work
- She has performed in the Utah Opera's – Hansel and Gretel production
- She taught American Red Cross swimming and water safety classes for 32 years.

For those that know Ella, it is no surprise she is recognized today as The Department of Human Services Employee of the Year.

Virginia (Ginny) Geary

2007 Executive Director's Award

*Salt Lake City
Office of Recovery Services*

Nomination Highlights:

Virginia (Ginny) Geary has been with the State of Utah since 1986 – over 20 years.

Most recently she has been with the Office of Recovery Services since 1989.

"Ginny is a real go-getter and very hard worker, and she always treats clients with dignity and respect," says co-worker, Tom Medina. Tom goes on to describe how Ginny took him "under her wings" and served as a mentor and taught him about child support and establishing paternity.



It is often difficult and emotional working with parents around child support issues, yet Ginny has successfully and respectfully served many, many parents. At the same time she mentors other Recovery Services staff to offer the same high quality and respectful service to parents. Ginny possesses an innate eagerness to track down answers to questions and a willingness to share these answers with her clients and her co-workers.

Her supervisor says, "I have received numerous compliments about how helpful she has been and the accuracy of the information she has provided to the non-custodial parents. In fact, many individuals request to speak directly with Ginny each time they call because she has established a very positive work relationship with them."

Outside of her job, she is actively involved in her community. Each August she is part of the Survivors at the Summit cancer wellness program and also assists the American Cancer Society and Leukemia Foundation

Overall, Ginny is a knowledgeable, dependable employee who makes her daily contribution to the success of her immediate work team and to the ORS mission of "promoting responsibility."



Special Appreciation to Each Outstanding Nominee

Employee of the Year

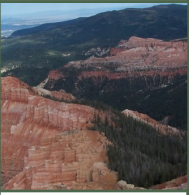
Donelle Clements, Office of Recovery Services
Ella Loveland, Division of Child and Family Services

Executive Director's Award

Tina Braby, Office of Executive Director
Jennifer Davis, Juvenile Justice Services
Virginia (Ginny) Geary, Office of Recovery Services
Cosette Mills, Division of Child and Family Services
Bert Peterson, Division of Child and Family Services
Guy Thompson, Utah State Developmental Center
Alison Wendel, Utah State Developmental Center

Career Achievement

Dennis Bellow, Utah State Developmental Center
Kelly Green, Division of Aging and Adult Services
Wes Hiraoka, Division of Services for People with Disabilities
Matthew Lyman, Division of Aging and Adult Services
Codi White, Division of Child and Family Services
Steve Wrigley, Division of Services for People with Disabilities



Special Appreciation to Each Outstanding Nominee

Supervisor of the Year

Nancy Beardall, Office of Recovery Services

Eric Beidler, Division of Child and Family Services

Jim Bright, Office of Recovery Services

Melonie Brown, Division of Child and Family Services

Larry Call, Office of Recovery Services

Stephanie Castro, Office of Fiscal Operations

Bret Hardy, Utah State Developmental Center

Tracy Hart, Juvenile Justice Services

Tami Hamblin, Office of Recovery Services

Clay Hiatt, Division of Services for People with Disabilities

Mark Keller, Utah State Hospital

Mike Keith, Utah State Hospital

Diane Maciel, Utah State Hospital

Jim Murray, Juvenile Justice Services

Chris Roach, Juvenile Justice Services

Justin Robb, Division of Child and Family Services

Steve Wrigley - 2007 Career Achievement Award

Administrator

Division of Services for People with Disabilities

Nomination Highlights:

Steve Wrigley has been an employee of the Department of Human Services, Division of Services for People with Disabilities, for more than 21 years.

Steve is steadfast in his commitment to the Department; he demonstrates the highest ethical standards and values, and is passionate about his work. He is optimistic, innovative and an exceptional mentor.

Steve came to Utah in 1985, and began working for the "Handicapped Services Unit" later to become known as the Division of Services for People with Disabilities. In these years he has served as:

- Support Coordinator
- Regional Human Services Supervisor
- The first DSPD Contract Administrator

- Community Supports Director
- Statewide Crisis Systems Administrator
- Project Director for the Traumatic Brain Injury Implementation Grant Project

There are many, many examples of Steve's innovative and energetic leadership in statewide projects. For example:

- Development and support of the first "People First" consumer groups
- Support of the first "Family Councils"
- Marriage Enrichment class teacher
- Development of a Crisis Intervention System with the Developmental Center
- Chair of Division's Emergency Management Committee
- Utah Homeland Security Emergency Planning for Special Needs Population trainer

His Associate Director writes, "What makes Steve stand out is his willingness to learn new things, risk, venture down new paths, and share his knowledge with others."

His Regional Director, Susan Macnamara, concludes saying, "Steve has outstanding analytical skills and is exceedingly creative in his approach to problem solving. He believes in building bridges, not barricades, when dealing with others. Steve is always upbeat and enthusiastic."



Service Awards By Year

20 Years

Joyce Adair	Kathy Ferreira	Joan Kesler	Danny Olsen	Lowell Tomlinson
Keri Allen	Carrie Forbes	Lee Kunz	Lori Orton	Kingi Tonga
Kathleen Anderson	Judy Halford	Virginia Lamay	Pam Poulson	Tamara Tuttle
Douglas Anderson	Tamra Hamblin	Lucas Largin	Anita Rutledge	David Valdez
Georgia Baddley	Beverly Hansen	Shauna Lighthill	Robbie Sawyer	Rita Valdez
Shane Barnes	Judy Hansen	Jack Lott	Spencer Schmutz	Nancy Valdez
Randy Blatnik	Ruth Hauser	Diane McCarty	Kyle Severson	Dianne Warner-Kearney
Scott Brimhall	Peter Heinbecker	Tomas Medina	Joseph Shultz	Neidra Welch
Rickey Brown	Scott Hodges	Marty Mendenhall	Jay Smith	Jeff Wells
Darla Caldwell	Jane Jakeman	Martin Meyer	Patricia Smith	Kati Wheatley
Trudy Decantu	Catherine Jeppson	Laura Miner	Dale Smuin	Rebecca Winters
Steve Elam	Robert Johnson	Kathryn Moore	Jane Swedin	Terri Yelonek
Lamont Felt	Joy Jones	Terry Nelson	Gina Timmerman	

25 Years

Caren Atkinson	Sharon Gilson	Neal Mcdougal	Vivian Pons	Randy Story
Craig Berntson	Shirley Harding	David McMillan	Marlayne Poulsen	Carrie Worthen
Joyce Bonnett	Sue Howe	Larry Mendez	Bryan PoVey	
Jeffrey Clark	Jan Knaphus	Tom O Bray	Kathleen Proctor	
Jolene Durrant	Joe Leiker	Linda O'Brien	Joe Salea	
David Engles	Carolyn Lucas	Roland Oliver	Thelma Sorensen	

30 Years

Peggy Allen	Bernice Chesnut	Sandra Fleming	Lisa Nelson	Ken Stettler
Gerald Berge	Polly Colbert	Janea Johnson	Brent Niederhauser	Lee Stevens
Steven Burton	Verna Dallin	William Kaletta	Clyde Nuzman	Kim Turner
Keri Carter	Kayleen Davis	Virgil Kampman	Bert Peterson	Scott Vincent
Vera Chadwick	Debbie Ferry	Kevin Moore	Robert Peterson	

35 Years

Kathryn Draper	Elvia Gallegos	John Hicken	John Miller	David Thomas
Malcolm Evans	Alan Hayward	Donna Jacobs	Margaret Sumens	

40 Years

Gary Howarth

45 Years

Dick Proctor



Gary Howarth

40 Years of Service Recognized

Gary's 40 years with the State of Utah began in 1967 when he started working for the old Job Services for 15 years. Then he joined the Office of Recovery Services in 1982 and has completed 25 years there.





Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month

Manuel Romero, Executive Director's Office

National Hispanic Heritage Month – September 15 to October 15th – offers opportunities to celebrate and learn about Utah's Hispanic/Latino community and our Department's involvement with them.

Did you know Latinos/Hispanics make up approximately 11% of Utah's population (250,000) and 75% are of Mexican descent? Did you realize that by 2030, 1 in 5 Utahns will be of Latino/Hispanic descent?

Our Department is taking active steps to increase our cultural responsiveness to this growing group.

For Example:

- Juvenile Justice Services and Division of Child and Family Services provides a pay differential for staff designated as translators
- Division of Services for People with Disabilities facilitated the network for Hispanic/Latino families in the Salt Lake County to meet together, share resources, training and support.
- Focus groups were held with JJS and DCFS to improve services and outcomes for clients and families of color.
- The UCare- The Caregiver Guide (www.ucare.utah.gov) offers five lessons for caregivers translated and printed in Spanish

Latino/Hispanics represent :

- 23% of supported Child Protective Services victims
- 16% of DCFS in-home clients and 24% of children in foster care
- 23% of youth in JJS custody

- Town hall meetings in Salt Lake City and Ogden provided current information from Latino/Hispanic community leaders.

Want to know more?

- Speakers, resources and more information is available from the State Office of Ethnic Affairs, <http://ethnicoffice.utah.gov/ethnicdirectories.html>
- DHS has a Spanish/English glossary available on our website. http://hs.utah.gov/glossary_div_all.html. It can assist staff be consistent with Department terms when interpreting and translating.

Service Awards By Year



20 years



30 years



25 years



35 years

Training Tidbits

Are you yearning for learning? Below are just a few of the upcoming training opportunities supported by the department:

Bridges Out of Poverty

September 26, 2007

Miller Free Enterprise Center Auditorium

Sandy, Utah

For additional/registration information visit the website:

http://community.utah.gov/housing_and_community_development/SCSO/index.html

Note: Registration fees apply.

20th Annual Conference on Child Abuse & Family Violence

September 24-26, 2007

Marriott City Center Hotel

Salt Lake City, Utah

For additional/registration information visit the website, www.preventchildabuseutah.org

Note: Registration fees apply.

Fall Conference on Substance Abuse

September 26-28, 2007

Dixie Convention Center

St. George, Utah

For additional/registration information contact Lynette Willie, 801-538-4410, lwillie@utah.gov.

Note: Registration fees apply.

Utah State Developmental Center 2007 Annual Fall Conference

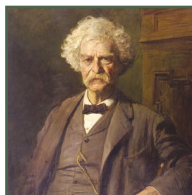
October 3, 2007

Utah State Developmental Center

American Fork, Utah

For additional/registration information contact Dan Chase, 801-763-4261, dchase@utah.gov.

Note: Registration fees may apply.



Education consists mainly of what we have unlearned.
- Mark Twain

11th Annual Conference on Critical Issues Facing Children & Adolescents

November 8-9, 2007

Hilton Salt Lake City Center

American Fork, Utah

For additional/registration information contact ESI Management Group, 801-501-9446 or toll free, 877-501-9446.

Note: Registration fees may apply.

Meth and Families: All-Day Workshop for Families

November 17, 2007

Davis Convention Center

Layton, Utah

Registration information is coming soon!

Note: This event is FREE.

8th Annual Suicide Prevention Conference

November 30, 2007

BYU Conference Center

Provo, Utah

For additional/registration information contact Cathy at Provo School District, cathyb@provo.edu

Note: Registration fees may apply.

HELP WANTED

Are you aware of a training or conference that we don't have listed in the Human Touch or online?

If so, please notify Elizabeth Sollis, esollis@utah.gov, 801-538-4275.

You may also submit events online on the department training calendars, www.hstraining.utah.gov.

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